## VI. *A* Botanical Invitation *to forward an Hiſtory of the Plants of* Swiſſerland ; *by Dr.* John Jacob Scheuchzer, *M. D. F. R. S. ſent to Sir* Hans Sloane, *Bar^t. Pr. R. S. to be communicated to the* Royal Society. *Tranſlated by Mr.* Zollman, *F. R. S.*

IT is not my Intention to enter into a long Detail of what I have hitherto performed in Natural Hiſtory, both in general, and that of *Swiſſerland* in particular, leſt I might ſeem guilty of Vanity even in merely relating it. Any body, that is acquainted with my Writings concerning the Natural Hiſtory of *Swiſſerland*, will be ſenſible that we ſtill want a *Botanography*, or Deſcription of the Plants, which is one of its principal Parts ; nay, that to which I chiefly have applied myſelf, and I dare add, without Offence to the cenſorious, which the World has long been in Expectation of : Some Obſervations diſperſed in my *Itinera Alpina*, publiſhed at *London* and *Leiden*, have raiſed a Deſire for it among Botaniſts. It will thence appear to every one who applies himſelf to a Study as difficult as it is delightful, that I ſpared neither Labour nor Expences in ſearching after Plants of all Kinds that grow ſpontaneouſly in *Swiſſerland*, and deſcribing them in the Places where they grow, in gathering them into Herbals, in comparing them with the Deſcriptions and Characters given of them by *Geſnerus*, the *Bauhin's*, *Ray*, *Tournefort*, *Boccone*, and others, in ſeparating what ought to



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be ſeparated, in joining what ought to be joined, in reſolving what is dubious, in retrenching what is ſuperfluous, in ſupplying what is defective, in ſhewing the Uſe of native Plants, and trying them myſelf in my Practice. Of theſe my *Hiſtory of* Swiſs *Plants*, which I am now hard at Work upon, is to conſiſt: Of which, and its Method, I intend now to give a brief Account, and draw up a Sort of Plan of it, in order to engage other Perſons by this Invitatory Paper, as I may call it, to join with me in this Labour.

This Work will be in the Form of a Dictionary, to the End it may ſerve at the ſame time for an *Index*. I therefore am diſpoſing in an Alphabetical Order, the various Kinds and Characters, ſubjoining to each of them the proper Species hitherto obſerved in *Swiſſerland*, either by myſelf or by others, together with the ſynonymous Names uſed by the different Authors, which are again tobe inſerted in their proper Places, according to the Order of the Alphabet. I am adding, and remarking, under each Plant, whatever ſeems to be wanting in their Deſcription by other Authors, or is any ways neceſſary for the fuller Knowledge of them, or is applicable to Medicinal or other Uſes. Beſides other Prints, there will appear in the Work itſelf thoſe of *Fuchſius* in Folio, I having purchaſed the Original Plates. I would add all the *Alpine* Plants, had I ſome Patrons at Hand who would bear the Expence of engraving the Copper Plates, or doing the wooden Cuts; an Aſſiſtance which may be beſt expected from the *Engliſh* Nation, and their *Society*.

*Zurich*, November the 6th, 1731. **John Jacob Scheuchzer.**